heated ozone-solvent solution is heated using an in-line heater placed just upstream of the at least one point of application of said heated ozone-solvent solution to said material.

Please cancel claim 16 without prejudice.

Please amend claim 31 as follows:

31. (Amended) A method for oxidizing a material, comprising:

dissolving an ozone gas in solvent at a first temperature to form an ozone-solvent solution;

heating the ozone-solvent solution from the first temperature to a second temperature; and

after the step of heating the ozone-solvent solution, reacting the heated ozone-solvent solution with the material at approximately the second temperature to oxidize the material,

wherein dissolving the ozone gas in solvent at the cooler first temperature allows for a higher concentration of dissolved ozone in the solvent, and the warmer second temperature allows for a higher reaction rate between the ozone-solvent solution and the material.

Please cancel claim 38 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 120 and 121 as follows:

121. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of applying said heated ozone-solvent solution to said material comprises passing said heated ozone-solvent solution through an orifice that directs said heated ozone-solvent solution toward said material, and wherein the step of heating comprises using a liquid-to-liquid heat exchanger placed just upstream of said orifice to heat said ozone-solvent solution.

122. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of applying said heated ozone-solvent solution to said material comprises passing said heated ozone-solvent solution through an orifice that directs said heated ozone-solvent solution toward said material, and wherein the ozone-solvent solution is heated in the heating step using an in-line heater placed just upstream of said orifice.